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Antennas

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Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club

Fort Wayne DX Association

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

October 2016
Volume 17
Issue 10

FWRC OPERATES A SPECIAL EVENT STATION, W9I To CELEBRATE THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDIANA'S STATEHOOD

It was a rainy and grey and cool Saturday morning on September 17th, 2016, when the Fort Wayne Radio Club set out to the IPFW campus to set up for operation as W9I, the Indiana Bicentennial Special Event Station. Chosen to correspond with the Johnny Appleseed Festival going on in Appleseed Park, our hope was to entice curious festival goers to check out what we were doing.

Although the weather wasn't cooperating, we decided to press on regardless and put two stations on HF, on 40 and 20 meters. Tom, KU8T, was first on the scene, followed by Steve, W9SAN. Charles, KC9MUT, then arrived with the club trailer in tow. We quickly realized that the small grassy spot we intended to use (because it was State property) would have been damaged by ruts quite easily, so we instead parked on a greenway access path that was filled with crushed rock. We set up as the rain got heavier, but quickly Tom's Honda generator was powering our two stations, plus 146.91 repeater access via HT's, and away we went.

We set up at 10:00 am and the plan was to go to 4:00 pm. The QSB on the bands was terrible, but our end-fed antennas worked great, and the contacts started flowing! We were joined by Al, WB9SSE, and Joseph, K9RFZ, as well as Jim, KB9WWM. Later, Jim, AC9EZ, showed up toward the end and ran a pretty good number of contacts to help us finish out. Also, Jim and Kim, KB9DOT & KB9DOS, brought out a dozen Coney dogs, which really helped fuel the operators through the afternoon. TNX, Kim and Jim!! Other hams that attended include Wilbur, KB9IQW, and Rob, W9BLI.



All in all, a successful day on the air promoting the Indiana Bicentennial. We have a special QSL card for those who send a SASE to the club PO Box.

Steve, W9SAN

More photos on page 9. Always check the FWRC web page for more news and photos.

Photos provided by Steve, W9SAN, Linda, W9LAN, and Al, WB9SSE.

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Internet Home Pages

- Fort Wayne Radio Club: <http://www.FWRC.info/>
- ACARTS: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FWRC/>
- Fort Wayne DX Association: <http://www.qsl.net/fwdfa/>
- ARES: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Allen_Co_IN_ARES/
- IN_PACKET Yahoo Group: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IN_PACKET/

Allen County HamNews is a monthly joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club (P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN 46885), the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN 46851), and the Fort Wayne DX Association.

Please send any articles, classified ads, or other information to the editor, Ken Helms, AB9ZD, at **AB9ZD (at)ARRL.NET**. Please put "For Newsletter" in the subject line. Most text and graphics formats are acceptable. Microsoft Word and JPEG are preferred if separate files are used. For those without computer access, please mail your submission to either of the clubs post office boxes.

The deadline for the each issue is a few days before the end of the preceding month.

Hamsplatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club

P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

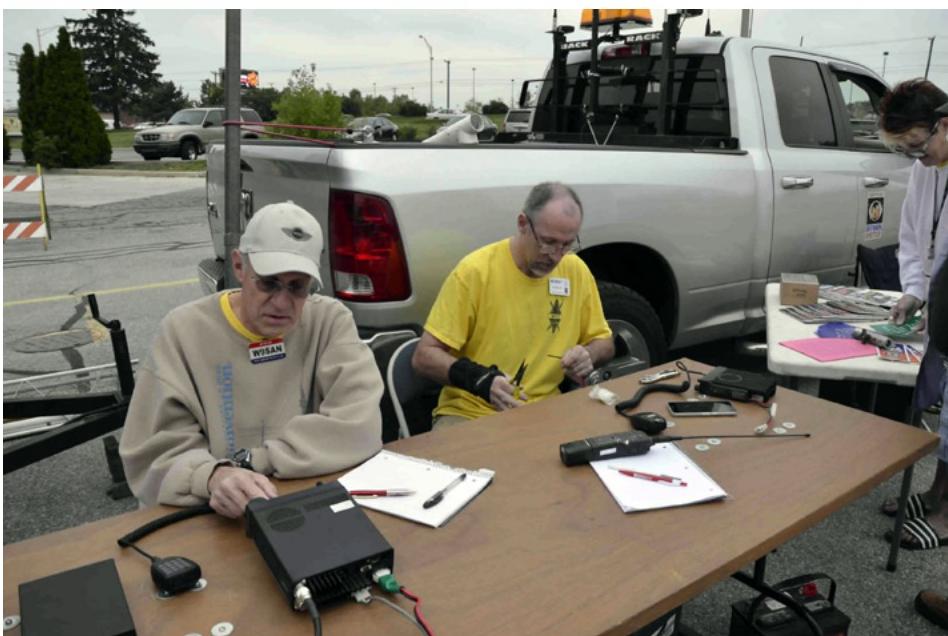
FWRC AT THE 8TH ANNUAL SAFETY FAIR

The Eighth Annual Safety Fair was held at Jefferson Point on Saturday, September 24. Dozens of organizations attended. The FWRC was there to demonstrate the communication capabilities of ham radio in an emergency.



Photos provided by Al, WB9SSE, Steve, W9SAN, and Linda, W9LAN.

More photos on Page 9. Always check the FWRC web page for the latest news and photos of events.



Kalamazoo Hamfest

October 16, 2016

The Kalamazoo Hamfest is being held in the Main Expo room at the newly renovated Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds located at 2900 Lake St. off of Business Route I-94 in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

www.kalamazoothamfest.com

October 21: To Be Announced.



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W9TE Trustee

Carole Burke, WB9RUS

Webmaster

Jay Farlow, W9LW

Unless otherwise scheduled, all meetings are held at 7:00 PM at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, 4700 Vance Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN.

FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES

The September meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church (GSUMC) on 16 September, 2016 and was hosted by club president Charles Ward, KC9MUT. There were about 30 people in attendance. After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance (where NOBODY took a knee), everyone present introduced themselves via their call sign.

President Charles (KC9MUT) opened nominations for the upcoming (October) election of FWRC Officers and Board of Directors. Folks willing to run for various offices, so far, are as follows:

President:	Charles Ward, KC9MUT
V.P.:	Carole Burke, WB9RUS
Secretary:	Al Burke, WB9SSE
Treasurer:	Bob Streeter, W8ST
Board of Directors:	Tom Rupp, KU8T Steve Nardin, W9SAN Linda Nardin, W9LAN Paul Prestia, KA3OPZ Kim Machamer, KB9DOT

While the current Board and Officers do an unbelievably spectacular job guiding the club, I mean, it's just amazing; we are always open to new faces and new ideas. Why not consider tossing your name in the hat for one or more club positions? By serving, you'd be in a better position to influence what the club does, and does not do. Nominations for all positions will be reopened at next month's meeting just before we conduct the elections. Why not add your name to the list!

Tom Rupp (KU8T) provided Treasurer Bob Streeter's club financial status report as follows:

Income year-to-date	\$2,173.00
Expenses year-to-date	\$3,495.24
Cash-on-Hand	\$ 107.33
Checking Account	\$3,179.37
Savings Account	\$7,821.20

Charles passed around a birthday card celebrating Bob Streeter's 75th birthday for sign-off. Happy Birthday Bob!

Paul Prestia brought the Sarkes-Tarzian/FWRC Parrott Rd. Lease Agreement for sign-off and Charles signed the lease for the club. Once Paul has the Sarkes-



Tarzian Ft. Wayne General Manager sign it, we will have our lease agreement in place and can then start ordering the antenna & feedline for the Parrot Rd. site, and hire a tower climber so that we can put the 146.94 Fusion repeater on the air at 380'.

Steve Nardin retold the saga of the September foxhunt. Steve, Linda and grandson Alex were the fox and hid out at the Arcola primary school out in, well, Arcola. They emplaced the microfox in a tree-bush in the playground out behind the school building. Foxhunter teams consisted of Charles Ward & Fred Gengangle, Jim & Annie Pliett plus Carole & Al Burke and of Jason, KC9UOQ and Debbi, KK4QXC plus Kylie. Charles and Fred found the fox first, followed by the Pliett/Burke team, followed by Jason, Debbi and Kylie. Details of the hunt can be found in the September Foxhunt Chronicles which should be posted on the club web page and in the November issue of the Ham News soon.

Jim Mooring, KB9WWM announced three upcoming civic events that are in need of communications services that local hams routinely supply. The events are:

1. Fort 4 Fitness Marathon (from Parkview Field), October 1. Starts at 7am. Jim needs about 30 operators with uhf handheld capability to provide route surveillance/communications. Coverage from about 7am to 1pm.

2. Heart Walk (from Ivy Tech north), 24 September. See: <http://fortwayne-heartwalk.kintera.org/faf/home/default.asp?ievent=1149995>

3. Making Strides against Breast Cancer (from Parkview Field), 15 October. See:

http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/MakingStridesAgainstBreastCancer/MSABCCY16LS?pg=entry&fr_id=77416

Contact Jim at servo300@aol.com, 260-493-8326 for more information on

these three events, and what you can do to help out.

Charles noted that the Fort Wayne Radio Club will operate a special events station, W9I, to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Indiana becoming a state (the Indiana Centennial). It will occur tomorrow, 17 September simultaneous with the annual Johnny Appleseed Festival. The club will set up stations operating on 20 and 40 meters, plus operation on 146.910 EchoLink on IPFW's campus on the west side of the St. Joe river near where the St. Joe Pathway passes under Coliseum Blvd. Operations are planned from 9:00am until about 4:00 pm.

Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ announced that the club will set up a demo station at the Ft. Wayne Community Safety Awareness Program to occur 24 September at Jefferson Point (behind Carmike) starting about 9:00 am. The event will give us a chance to introduce the attending crowd to Ham radio.

Following the business meeting and a coffee and cookie break, Kevin Loughin, KB9RLW provided an excellent presentation entitled "An Arduino Vox Rig Interface". Kevin designed, built, and programmed a usb enabled audio interface for use on amateur radio digital modes, which includes the VOX function, based upon the Arduino microcontroller board. Kevin's design is inexpensive (\$20.00 to \$30.00 range), is simple to build (thru-board components, no surface mount, and works with popular digital modes. And since it is micro-controller based, it is flexible, so should be applicable to new digital modes as they are developed. (You can find a video describing Kevin's system at:

<https://twitter.com/kb9rlw>

This would be an ideal club project.

The meeting adjourned about 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE

Secretary, Fort Wayne Radio Club

State of the Arts

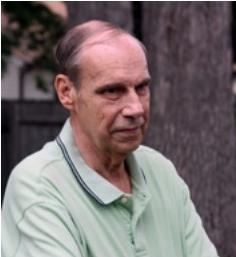
Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

ACARTS PRESIDENT's MESSAGE

Thanks to Jim, KB9IH, for a great presentation and demonstration of the design and construction of a magnetic loop antenna at the September meeting.

The Fort Wayne Hamfest is just a little over a month away. All the behind work that has been going on since last year's Hamfest has been coming together to make another super event. The Hamfest dates this year fall on the earliest of the Coliseum rental schedule, so the dates are November 12th and 13th. Now is the time to make sure the dates are on your calendar and get your table reservations in if you are planning on having a table, think about what days and times you can work at the Hamfest, or just plan on attending and having fun. Contact Jim, KB9IH, at kb9ih(at)arrl.net to let him know your availability to work at



the Hamfest. This is especially helpful if you worked the Hamfest last year and would like the same job and hours.

The October meeting on the 18th will be assisting Jim, KB9IH, with final Hamfest preparations.

Remember that the club elections for 2017 are held in November. Many of the club officers and board members have held these positions for many years. The board could always use new members with fresh ideas to move the club forward. Please consider running for an office or board position. Let me know if you would like to be placed on the ballot or contact me if you would like information as to what each position entails.

73,

Dave Lindquist, W9LKH
President

ACARTS GENERAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

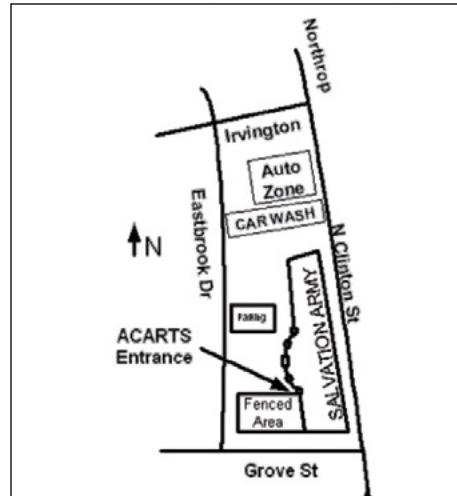
The meeting was called to order by Dave, W9LKH.

Our presentation tonight was given by Jim, KB9IH on magnetic loops. Topics included a definition of a magnetic loop, transmission, tuning and building of an antenna. An example of a home brew antenna was brought in for display. The cost of homebrew is minimal compared to the cost of commercially made magnetic loops.

These antennas are also referred to as STA or Small Transmitting Antenna. They are tuned with a capacitor are easy to build, easy to hide and work well close

to the ground. Commercial loops are made by MFJ and Alex-Loop. They take all the guess work out of building one, but what's the fun in that?

The loop is made out of soft copper tubing and there is a calculator that will help you determine range, the tuning capacitor and its efficiency. You can find this calculator by going to AA5TB@yahoo.



October 18: At the October meeting, we will be assisting Jim, KB9IH, with final Hamfest preparations.

Unless otherwise scheduled, all meetings are held at 7:00 PM at the Salvation Army Center, 2901 N. Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, IN.

ACARTS Officers

President

Dave Lindquist, W9LKH
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com. Making an antenna offers a pride, joy and self-satisfaction. For further interest please talk with Jim, KB9IH.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Submitted by TJ Walker, W9QHY

For the latest information on the Fort Wayne Hamfest and Computer Expo, go to:

www.fortwaynehamfest.com/hfmain.htm

Download latest the flier for the 2016 Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo at:

[www.fortwaynehamfest.com/
images/2016%20FLYER%20I.pdf](http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com/images/2016%20FLYER%20I.pdf)

FORT WAYNE HAMFEST & Computer Expo

44th Year

Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
4000 Parnell Ave
Fort Wayne, IN
73,000 sq. ft. all indoors
(Coliseum Parking \$5 per vehicle)

**Admission: \$6 Sat & Sun
\$3 Sun only**
Children under 12 free (with adult)

ARRL IN State Convention
WAS & DXCC Checking
New & Used Ham Dealers
Main & Hourly Prizes
Equipment Check-out table
Talk-in 146.880
Forums Sat only (see the website)
**Tables: \$25 Regular (8ft)
\$50 Premium (8ft)
\$30 Electricity**

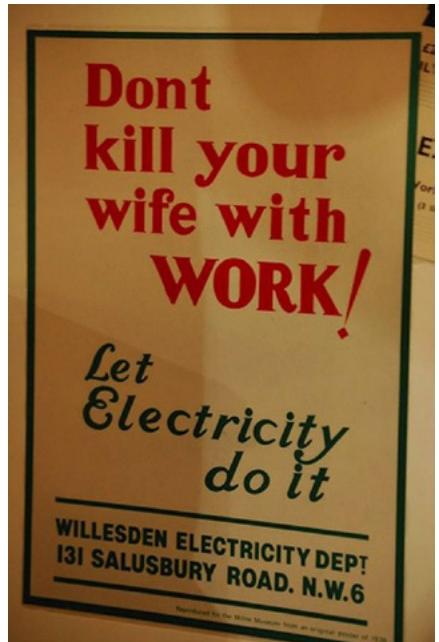
Ham Radio License Testing (\$14)
9 AM till 12 PM Saturday

**Get the latest information at:
www.fortwaynehamfest.com**

**NOV
12&13
2016**

**SAT 9 AM to 4 PM
SUN 9 AM to 2 PM**

Map



ACARTS SEPTEMBER 2016 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Dave, W9LKH.

Dave announced that the September meeting would be a presentation and demonstration of the design and building of a magnetic loop antenna by Jim, KB9IH.

Dave asked if anyone had any ideas for the October meeting. As no one came forward, Dave suggested that the meeting be Hamfest preparation, assisting Jim, KB9IH, with any final mailings, etc.

Dave stated that he had received another shipment of radio equipment from Larry, WB3ELM, which included a Kenwood TS-2000 with matching power supply. As with the previous shipment, Larry would like compensation for the shipping and packaging charges, which amounted to \$139.87. The board had voted in August to pay Larry the shipping charges for the first shipment, but because the actual bill was not received from Larry until after the meeting, the packaging charges were not included. A motion was made

by Howard, N9ADS, seconded by Bernie K9JDF, and approved by a voice vote to pay the additional \$25.97. A motion was made by Howard, seconded by Dave, WB9UNL, and approved by a voice vote to pay Larry the \$139.87 for the second shipment.

Dave asked the board if they still felt that the Christmas Dinner should be at Hall's Guesthouse on December 20th. Dave said that he would make reservations.

Jim, KB9IH, presented a draft copy that he had designed of the Hamfest ad for the November issue of QST. Some minor changes were suggested and Jim said that he would make the changes and submit the ad to QST as the deadline was in a few days.

No other business was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

ACARTS AUGUST 2016 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Dave, W9LKH.

KB9IH will have a mystery presentation in September.

WB3ELM is cleaning house and donated some equipment to the club. Radio equipment given to the club are as follows:

- Kenwood 430S
- MFJ Tuner
- Power supply
- SWR bridge
- Icom T90 HT with extras.

Bernie, K9JDF agreed to borrow the Kenwood and check it out. Discussion as to how to pay for the cost of shipping. Motion made by TJ, W9QHY to have the club pay for the shipping costs. Seconded by Bob, N9PWM. Motion carried.

Jim, KB9IH discussed placing an advertisement in QST with a range of prices to consider. It will cost the club \$200.00 for a full page to advertise the Hamfest.

A quarter page would cost \$524.00 and a third quarter of a page would cost \$700.00. To advertise in the October 2016 and November 2016 QST the deadline is on the 15th of August and September. Bob, N9PWM made a motion to advertise with a quarter page for two months at \$524.00. Bernie K9JDF seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Further discussion for Hamfest flyer could be sent out as a bulk email at \$100.00 or continue to do a bulk mailing as we have done in the past. Decision was made to continue with the bulk mailing.

Calendar dates through the end of the year are as follows:

- October – Unknown at this time.
- November – Hamfest wrapup and board elections.
- December – Christmas Party.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Submitted by TJ Walker, W9QHY



Jim Wolf KR9U

In the September issue of the ACHN, Carl K9LA discussed the broad band LPDA (Log Periodic Dipole Array). I thought I would share some of my experience with various multiband antennas.

Over the years, I have repaired many trap failures in tri-band Yagis. It so happens, at least at my location, that bugs seem to build grass nests and sometimes bring in mud – which results in RF arcing across insulators and turning them into plastic resistors. As I age, I no longer feel as comfortable climbing towers and that feeling isn't likely to go away. Given the above, I've pretty much decided that I should pursue trap-less antennas if possible. There are some very nice trap-less 'triband' antennas on the market which apparently seem to work quite well. However, I also want WARC band capability.

So, let's delve into a few of the peculiar facts about the LPDA antenna and how it compares to other typical amateur 10 through 20 meter antennas. For a LPDA antenna that a typical amateur would use on a boom, say 12 – 18 ft., you can expect the gain to be in the general area of 6.0 to 6.5 dBi or 4.0 to 4.5 dBd, which is close to what a 2 element Yagi design would provide – but with better front-to-back ratio. Now you might be thinking, why not a triband antenna? Well, that's certainly a good way to go, especially if you are only concerned with 10, 15 or 20 meters. Expect about another 2 dB of gain and a flatter VSWR with the tri-bander. Yet the WARC bands are an attractive thing to have especially since DXpeditions make good use of them.

Recent five band designs have been developed with modeling and optimi-

MORE ON MULTIBAND ANTENNAS

zation algorithms that were not readily available when many of the older established antennas were made. Therefore, many trapped antennas built before the early 90's were designed by brute force. Build, measure, change design, measure and repeat. Making a three band antenna was difficult enough let alone a five band design. On a typical trapped triband antenna the distance between elements is not optimal for all three bands. Front-to-back ratio, gain, bandwidth and VSWR are parameters that are compromised to make the antenna into a usable piece of equipment. If you want a rotatable directional antenna that covers all five bands from 10 through 20 meters with an almost flat VSWR you will be looking at some of the recent designs. However, they are expensive, use a lot of aluminum and I'm not yet convinced that there aren't many untold compromises made to get them to work.

A few years ago I installed a trapped inverted V for the WARC bands. It does not rotate and the pattern is skewed – hence the T8 LPDA antenna. The LPDA (as with all antennas) has its pluses and minuses. On the plus side, it is a bullet-proof (no-

traps) directional antenna that covers all the amateur bands and SWL frequencies between 13 and 32 MHz. It looks like it would be difficult for Mother Nature to have much effect on it since there are no traps, no plastic insulators and no hairpin or gamma matching parts to be degraded by the sun and wind. On the minus side, those with solid state radio outputs or solid state amplifiers, may want to have a tuner handy as the VSWR can get high enough that the transmitter protection circuitry could start to fold back as this is the nature of a log periodic antenna. For the same boom length, it may not have quite the gain of an antenna designed for a specific band or bands. For the station owner, you will need to compare the good and bad for your own needs. All antennas are a compromise – you just want to be aware of what will work best for your needs. For me the T8 works pretty much as I expected. I now have rotatable and directional gain on all five bands with the Tennadyne T8 and I was pleasantly surprised at the increased WARC band performance over the inverted V.



versus



Typical comparison of a 5-band Yagi and a Log Periodic Dipole Array



Also, don't miss Carl's article on *The New Sunspot Numbers* in this month's *QST*.

The New Sunspot Numbers

The new SILSO numbers will affect many calculations using sunspot numbers.

Carl Luetzelbach, K9LA

In early March of this year, Wayne Mills, N7NG, was browsing the WMFD solar website¹ and noticed that the latest sunspot numbers were based on the Smoothed Index and Long-term Solar Observations (SILSO) plot from the Royal Observatory of Belgium, and not the International Solar-Terrestrial Physics (ISTS) plot from the Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC). He did some research and Figures 1A and 1B show these two plots.

The smoothed sunspot number on the SILSO plot (the red line) at the second peak of Solar Cycle 24 (early 2014) was around 120. With the new sunspot numbers on the SILSO plot (the blue line) at the same point in time was around 80.

Why Is There a Difference?

The simple answer to the question Wayne posed is that he is looking at different numbers that the SILSO plot reports. The more involved answer is that counting sunspots is subjective — there's a human inter-

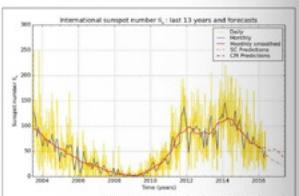


Figure 1A -- International sunspot numbers for the last 13 years and forecasts.
Source: WMFD Solar Observatory, Brussels, 2015 (see 1)

How New Friends CHANGED My ATTITUDE About STORM CHASERS

By Jay Farlow, W9LW, quadrant director,
IMO SKYWARN

For some time, I've looked at amateur storm chasers with some disdain. I believed that too many were putting themselves into too much danger, just to see, photograph and/or video record tornados. I doubted that many chasers were truly motivated by improving public safety and even fewer were doing real science, no matter what they said. I was concerned that many chasers set poor examples for the general public and that their "antics" encouraged lesser informed people to take uneducated and unwise risks.

I've been a SKYWARN storm spotter for more than a quarter century. When talking to friends, family members and even journalists about my volunteer service to the National Weather Service (NWS), I was careful to make sure they understood that I'm not a chaser, like the people they've seen on TV or on the Web. My ultimate goal, I'd explain, isn't to see tornados, it's to help protect my community from possible storms by staying close to home and relaying valuable information to the NWS.

So it was with some trepidation that I attended an event in November, 2015 called INChaserCon, a one-day convention in the Indianapolis area for storm chasers. I'm glad I went. Some of the people I met there subsequently changed my thinking. They are admittedly driven by a desire to see tornados. But my subsequent experience with them demonstrated that they're also very passionate about getting reports to the NWS.

After the chasers learned that I have access to NWSChat – a private, internet-based text chatroom run by the NWS – they invited me to join them on Zello, a smartphone app with which they communicate with each other—so I could relay their reports to the NWS via NWSChat.

That's exactly what happened during the August, 2016 tornado outbreak in Indiana and Ohio. As a tornadic storm moved east from Kokomo into the county warning area of my local NWS office, storm chasers John Tinney, Eric Lawson and David Buell reported wall clouds, funnel clouds, etc. via Zello. I relayed those



Photo by Michael Enfield, used with permission

reports via NWSChat.

Then, a storm over my own home in Fort Wayne, Indiana received a tornado warning. Storm chaser Michael Enfield immediately headed toward that storm. Via Zello, he promptly reported a wall cloud, then funnel clouds and then a tornado for me to relay via NWSChat. The NWS survey report recorded the time of the tornado's initial touchdown as 5:27 p.m. – the same time as Enfield's report, confirming that he saw and reported the tornado when it first touched down. That storm eventually did EF-3 damage to a rural part of Allen County, Indiana.

Throughout the event, any time the chasers had something to report, if I wasn't immediately available on Zello, they'd keep trying until I acknowledged their reports. Getting reports through to the NWS was clearly very important to them. By the end of the event, I had typed 50 reports into NWSChat. All but about 15 of those came from storm chasers on Zello. The rest came from storm spotters via ham radio.

By aggressively chasing storms, my new friends put themselves in positions to immediately report weather that was not near any traditional SKYWARN spotters at the time. By religiously reporting, they played significant roles in protecting people in the paths of the storms.

A Facebook post by Lawson sums up pretty well how this particular group of storm chasers sees things:

"I noticed a developing supercell heading towards Kokomo was looking really strong and rushed out the door. By the time I was on interstate 69 southbound the strong EF3 was already in progress and heading towards the town in which I have spent many days of my youth, and

is home to many great friends and their families. Hearing reports of the devastation in progress on the radio made my heart sink. I was rushing south in horror wondering if anyone I knew had been hurt. This is the moment that things really changed for me, I felt less excited about seeing tornados, and much more concerned with providing accurate information to keep people informed."

I have no doubt there are other storm chasers out there who rarely report their observations to the NWS. There are likely some that don't care about anything but the excitement of seeing a tornado.

But I'm convinced that the storm chasers I know are not among these. They've changed my attitude about chasers.

The 2016 Indiana Storm Chasers' Convention was nearly sold out at the end of September, but a few seats might still be available. It's scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 19 in Camby, Indiana (near Indianapolis). The agenda includes presentations on two-to-three-week prediction of severe weather, technology and weather, and similarities and differences in severe weather between the Plains and Midwest. For more information or to register, visit:
www.indchasercon.com.



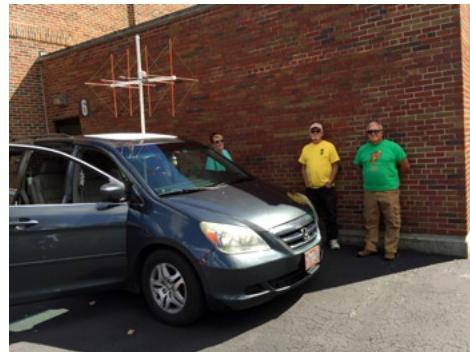
THE FOXHUNT CHRONICLES

It was a truly fantastic September Sunday afternoon on the 11th when the Fort Wayne Radio Club held its monthly Fox Hunt. Assembled at the starting point were 3 teams, Jason, Deborah, and Kylie, the team of Burkes and Plietts (Al, Carole, Jim, & Anne), and the slightly injured team of Charles and Fred. Charles had the day before broken his wrist, but was none the less ready to get with the hunt!

At the Fox hiding place the team of Linda (W9LAN), Steve (W9SAN), and their grandson, Alex, was ready to get the show started! In the sleepy little Northwest Allen County town of Arcola, the Fox team was hiding out behind the local school building. The high power fox was operated by Linda's mobile rig tied to their normal fox hunt antenna, a four element quad. With 25 watts of power, the group waiting for first signal would surely be able to hear us, right??

The micro-fox was another story. Since Alex was the one who found the fox at the infamous Library hunt last month, we left it to him to find a suitable hiding place. He settled on a shrubbery near a diesel pump behind the school. It took several attempts for him to find a way into the bush, and he was acting a little silly when he came out, waving his arms in celebration of finding a great place for the micro-fox. Linda and I weren't the only people watching this, as we would find out later....

With everything ready to begin, we started transmitting at 1:30 pm sharp. All the teams heard our high power signal, so the chase was on!! We continued transmitting every 5 minutes, but it was starting to get warm where we were parked, so we moved the van (also to hide a little better!) That's when an Allen County Sheriff's deputy pulled up next to us. I had visions



that some locals had called the police because they thought we were "stealing their internet" or something like that. It turns out that sometimes people do drugs in school yards, and the neighbors weren't having it next door to them!! After talking with the officer, all was good, he told everyone what was going on, and left with a smile. Whew!!

With potential jail time avoided, we focused on the hunt once again. At 2:17, the first team to localize the fox, Charles and Fred, came zipping into the back parking lot at Arcola School. Immediately they started looking for the micro-fox. And just that fast, they found the decoy fox hidden in a newspaper box. After that false hope was dashed, Fred found the real Fox, fol-



lowed by Charles. The fox was first found at 2:22 pm. Several minutes later, the next team came rolling in. It was the Burke-Pliett team.

The team got right to the business at hand with the usual Fall yellow jackets buzzing around them. Anne thought sure she had found it, but no, it was the dreaded HT decoy! (I don't think Anne was too happy with me at that point...) After what seemed like a long time, each of them found the shrubbery-dwelling Fox. This left one team that was MIA... where was Jason, Deborah and Kylie??? Seems they were confused on the actual frequency of the fox, so they were orbiting the 76 repeater near RedLine Motorsports. After correcting that mistake, they arrived on the scene, and after about 10 frustrating minutes, found the fox, too.

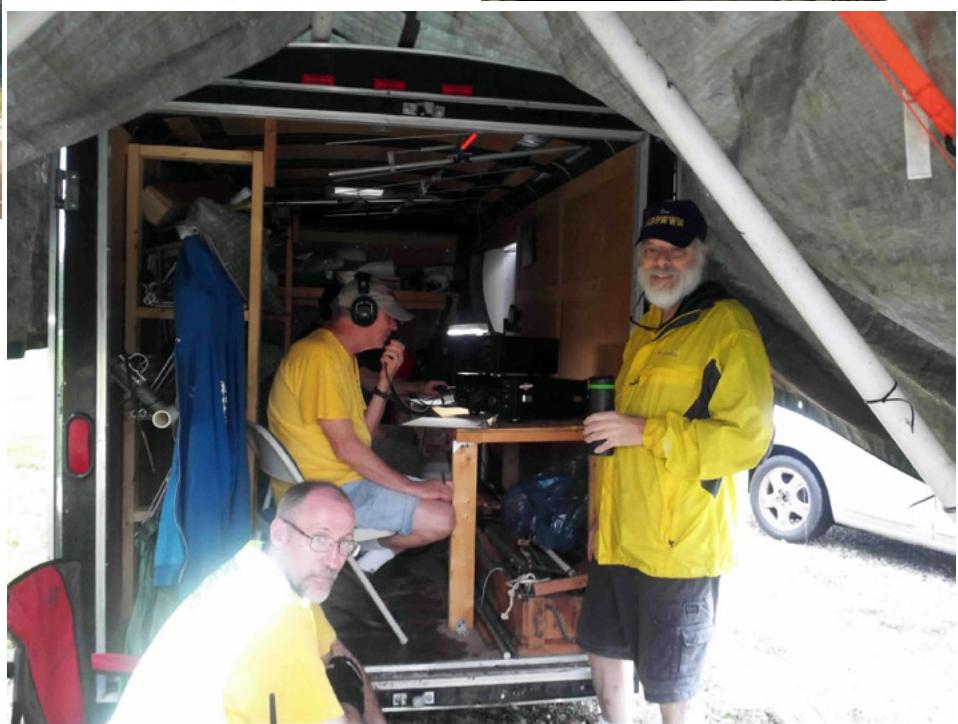
CALL	MONTH SCORE	YEAR-TO-DATE
W9SAN	5.33	32.88
W9LAN	5.33	33.88
ALEX	5.33	20.13
KC9UOQ	1	39.6
KK4QXC	1	32.6
KC9MUT	3	22.67
KC9EZP	4	18.67
AB9IZ	-	6
K9DNU	-	5
KC9UHU	-	12.67
K9OMA	2	23.5
KA9YYI	2	22.5
WB9SSE	2	22.5
WB9RUS	2	22.5
KB9DOS	-	11
KB9DOT	-	11
KD9FNM	-	2
Kylie	1	4
KD9GDY	-	1
KD9GDX	-	1



With the fox finding done, most of us went to the Library Diner for some post hunt goodies. And the diner also was doing a car show, just for us, really nice! Join us next month, October 2nd, for our next hunt.

Steve Nardin, W9SAN

More foxhunt photos on the FWRC web pages.



THE LAST TWO FOXHUNTS OF 2016

The foxhunts start at 1:30 PM on Sunday at the River Greenway Trailhead at Cobin Memorial Park near Lakeside Golf Course.

October 2
November 6

MORE PHOTOS OF FWRC AT THE 8TH ANNUAL SAFETY FAIR



To keep up to date with club activities, check the FWRC web page, the FWRC Facebook page, and the Yahoo Groups web page. Make sure the club has your latest email address too.

CONTEST CALENDAR

Here are a few of the contests that will be held in the next few weeks. Please refer to the contest web sites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

Some of the places on-line with information on contests include:

ARRL Contest Corral Web page www.arrl.org/contests

ARRL's National Contest Journal www.arrl.org/ncj

ARRL Contest Update www.arrl.org/contest-update-issues

Contesting On-Line www.contesting.com

WA7BNM Contest Calendar www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/

Contesting Wiki <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contesting>

DX Zone Contesting www.dxzone.com/catalog/Contesting/

ARRL Contest Calendar www.arrl.org/contest-calendar

CALIFORNIA QSO PARTY			PENNSYLVANIA QSO PARTY			ARIZONA QSO PARTY		
OCTOBER 1, 1600Z	OCTOBER 2, 2200Z		OCTOBER 8, 1600Z	OCTOBER 9, 2200Z		OCTOBER 8, 1800Z	OCTOBER 9, 0300Z	
1.8-28	-	PHONE, CW	1.8-28	50,144	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL	1.8-28	50,144	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL
SERIAL, COUNTY OR SPC			SERIAL, COUNTY OR ARRL/RAC SECTION			SERIAL, COUNTY OR SPC		
www.cqp.org/Rules.html			www.nittany-arc.net			www.azqsoparty.org		
IOWA QSO PARTY			NEW YORK QSO PARTY			SOUTH DAKOTA QSO PARTY		
OCTOBER 15, 1400Z	OCTOBER 15, 2300Z		OCTOBER 15, 1400Z	OCTOBER 16, 0200Z		OCTOBER 15, 0600Z	OCTOBER 16, 2359Z	
1.8-28	50+	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL	1.8-28	50+	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL	1.8-28	50,144	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL
RS(T), COUNTY OR SPC			RS(T), COUNTY OR SPC			RS(T), COUNTY OR SPC		
www.wa0dx.org/IAQSO			www.nyqp.org			www.kb0wsw.com/SDQP		
ILLINOIS QSO PARTY			ARRL SCHOOL CLUB ROUNDUP			ARRL EME CONTEST		
OCTOBER 16, 1700Z	OCTOBER 17, 0100Z		OCTOBER 17, 1300Z	OCTOBER 21, 2359Z		OCTOBER 22, 0000Z	OCTOBER 23, 2359Z	
1.8-28	50,144	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL	3.5-28	50+	PHONE, CW	-	50-1296	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL
RS(T), COUNTY OR SPC			RS(T), CLASS (I/C/S), SPC			SIGNAL REPORT		
www.w9awe.org			www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup			www.arrl.org/eme-contest-1		

Classified Ads

Items for Sale

Want to Buy



If you have something you would like to have listed in the classified section then please send an email to the newsletter editor at **AB9ZD(at)ARRL.NET**.

The Allen County HamNews is prepared using Adobe's InDesign software along with PhotoShop and Acrobat on an i7 PC running Windows 10.

Articles, photographs, and classified ads for publication in the Allen County HamNews should be emailed to the newsletter editor at **AB9ZD(at)ARRL.NET** several days before the first of the month.

"HAMS GONE YL'D"

THE GALS TAKE OVER HAM NATION WITH AN ALL YL SHOW

Just in case you missed it, Ham Nation's episode 264 on Sept 7 was an all-YL show. Bob, Gordon, George, and Don took the week off and let the gal's do the whole show. Valerie, Amanda, Katie, Dr. Tamitha, Abbi, Kendra, and more did a great job. To watch it, go to:

<https://twit.tv/shows/ham-nation/episodes/264?autostart=false>



Membership Application for ACARTS OR FWRC

Name: _____ Call sign: _____ License class: _____

Street address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ ZIP : _____ - _____ Phone #: (_____) _____ - _____ Unlisted? Yes

Email address: _____ ARRL Member? Yes

(ARRL membership helps your club maintain affiliation.)

May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster and on our club web site? Yes No

Both clubs now offer this newsletter as a downloadable (Adobe Acrobat) PDF file, in lieu of a paper copy sent through the mail. For FWRC a mailed paper newsletter is a \$20.00/yr. premium.

How would you like your newsletter delivered? by snail mail download from web site.

A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues

Regular membership	<input type="checkbox"/> \$12.00 / year
Additional family members ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year
Student membership ²	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year
Associate membership ³	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year

(New Regular memberships are \$1/month)

Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues

Regular membership	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 / year
Family membership ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00 / year
Student membership ²	<input type="checkbox"/> \$5.00 / year
Associate membership ³	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 / year
Mailed newsletter premium	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 / year

(Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)

1. Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.

2. K-12 or full time student

3. Unlicensed member

Please attach a check (number _____) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

ACARTS
PO Box 10342
Fort Wayne, IN 46851-0342

Fort Wayne Radio Club.
PO Box 15127
Fort Wayne, IN 46885-5127

For dual membership, send a check to each club for your respective membership. Payment by check is strongly encouraged!

ACARTS AND FWRC REPEATERS

W9INX		ACARTS
146.880 (-)	No tone	General use / Skywarn priority
147.255 (+)	No tone	General use
443.800 (+)	No tone	General use
144.390 (s)	Digital	APRS - wide
145.530 (s)	Digital	W9INX-1 Digipeater and Node
W9TE		FWRC
146.760 (-)	141.3 Hz optional	General use (Note 1)
146.940 (-)	141.3 Hz optional	General use with auto-patch (Note 1)
146.910 (-)	141.3 Hz optional	EchoLink connection repeater Node number 519521 (Note 1)
444.875 (+)	141.3 Hz	General use (Note 1)
439.25 In, 910.250 Out	ATV	144.340 Audio & control
442.99375	D-STAR	General use (Note 2)
224.780 (-)	No tone	W9FEZ, 1.6 MHz offset

Notes:

- Output 141.3 Hz, present
- Offset + 5.0 MHz, W9TE ____ B, W9TE ____ G

AREA NETS					
Daily		Tuesday			
8:00 AM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	8:00 PM	50.580 USB	FWRC 6 Meter Net
8:30 AM	3.940	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	9:00 PM	146.940-	Allen Co. ARES Training Net
Wednesday					
6:00 PM	3.940	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	7:00 PM	146.760-	FWRC YL Net
6:30 PM	146.880-	IMO (alternate is 146.760)	7:30 PM	147.150	21 Repeater Group
7:00 PM	147.015+	Tri State Two Meter Net	8:00 PM	145.270	Whitley Co. ARES (131.8 PL disabled)
8:00 PM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	9:00 PM	146.940-	Help and Swap Net
Week Days					
8:30 AM	3.820	Little Red Barn Net	Thursday		
Sunday			7:30 PM	D-STAR	Indiana D-STAR net (Note 3)
8:00 PM	444.550+	Whitley Co. Sunday (131.8 PL)	8:00 PM	50.580 AM	6 Meter AM Net
8:30 PM	1.965 & 146.910-	"No-Name" Net also on EchoLink Node number 519521	8:30 PM	145.510 (s)	Allen County ARES Digital Operations Team Training Net (Note 4)
Saturday					
9:00 PM	145.530	Northeast Indiana Packet Net (Note 2)	8:00 PM	146.685-	Huntington ARES
Monday					
8:00 PM	224.780-	Fort Wayne 224 Net			

1. All times local time. **Any changes or corrections should be submitted to the newsletter editor at AB9ZD (at) ARRL.NET.**

2. On 145.530 @ 1200 baud. Use unconnected converse mode to communicate for a roundtable net setting. Use your "UNPROTO" command or equivalent to set Digi path(s) through the strongest station(s) needed between you and your destination. Only use those that are necessary! Have all your "Monitor" settings on so you can see everyone.

3. 1st and 3rd Thursday, Reflector REFO24B.

4. Net starts using BPSK-31 and switches to BPSK-250 after roll call to pass traffic etc. NBEMS suite of software (FLDIGI, FLSMSG, and FLAMP) is preferred.

5. Indiana HF Traffic Nets Web Site: <http://www.inarrl.org/inhfnet.html>

Allen County HamNews
P.O. Box 10342
Fort Wayne, IN 46851-0342

STAMP

To:

Activities Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Place
10/02/2016	1:30 PM	Foxhunt - River Greenway Trailhead/Cobin Memorial Park near Lakeside Golf Course	
10/11/2016	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
10/11/2016	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
10/18/2016	7:00 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
10/21/2016	7:00 PM	FWRC General Meeting	GSUMC
11/01/2016	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
11/06/2016	1:30 PM	Foxhunt - River Greenway Trailhead/Cobin Memorial Park near Lakeside Golf Course	
11/08/2016	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
11/11/2016	7:00 PM	FWRC General Meeting	GSUMC
11/12/2016	9:00 AM	2016 Fort Wayne Hamfest	Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
11/13/2016	9:00 AM	2016 Fort Wayne Hamfest	Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
11/15/2016	7:00 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Facility